

CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

Weekly



Bulletin

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GUY P. JONES
EDITOR

HIGH LIGHTS FROM BIENNIAL REPORT.

The following are extracts from the report of the Secretary of the California State Board of Health as published in the Twenty-ninth Biennial Report of the Board:

BUREAU OF TUBERCULOSIS.

It is doubtful if any state provides better county institutional care for its tuberculosis than does California. The county tuberculosis hospitals have been raised to a high degree of efficiency. Many of these county institutions provide much more elaborate equipment than most private institutions. Because of the high standards set, the so-called stigma of securing treatment in a county institution, on the part of those who are unable to pay, has been completely removed. The tuberculous are assured of securing as adequate hospital attention and treatment in county tuberculosis hospitals in California as they would obtain in any private institution. This factor is of the utmost importance in tuberculosis control and the state may take a justifiable pride in the high standards maintained in these institutions. The other activities of the bureau, such as work among ex-service men, occupational therapy and other activities are well outlined in the detailed report of the bureau.

REGISTRATION OF NURSES.

Nurses in California are insistent in their demands that high educational standards be maintained among those who practice the profession of nursing.

The examinations given by the bureau each year comply with this desire of the nurses themselves that high standards be maintained. To obtain a certificate as a registered nurse in California means a great deal to the nurse. It means that she has received adequate training and that she has passed successfully a rigid examination testing her qualifications as a nurse. There is no diminution in the interest that nurses maintain in this essential activity.

Under the act of the last legislature the accumulated earnings of the bureau have been diverted into an endowment fund, by means of which a chair of nursing education will be established in the University of California. This will go far toward raising nursing standards still higher in California and is a satisfactory solution to all concerned for putting these earnings to work in the perpetual interest of nursing education.

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING.

The California State Board of Health has, during the past two years, acting under the sections of the Political Code which give it due authority, given examinations for certificate as public health nurse to 327 candidates. Of this number 290 have successfully passed the examinations and have been granted certificates. The importance of the public health nurse grows from year to year. The exact number of such nurses who are employed at the present time in California is not known exactly, but it is believed that there are fully eight hun-

dred such nurses who are continuously employed in public health nursing. A few years ago there were not more than six or eight such nurses in the State of California who were gainfully employed in the practice of their profession. This remarkable growth within a short space of time is indicative of the great hold that this type of work has taken upon the general public. No health department can function satisfactorily without the services of public health nurses. They supply a demand that is insistent and continuous. As time goes on their importance increases rather than diminishes. Any community which overlooks the service that can be provided by public health nurses is neglecting one of the most important fields of its work.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The state registration of births, deaths and marriages has been in effect since 1905. With the continued growth of population the volume of work undertaken by the bureau increases from year to year. The volume is far greater at the present time, naturally, than it has ever been before. In past years the board has been enabled to make detailed analyses and tabulations of the data collected. These tabulations were formerly published in the biennial reports. Their volume and bulk is so great at the present time that it is not feasible to publish them. Investigators and research workers, as well as individuals, who may desire detailed information concerning the demography of their local communities, can always obtain such detailed information as may be available by corresponding with the registrar of the Bureau of Vital Statistics at Sacramento. The application of vital statistics to community health problems provides the only reliable index leading to the institution of remedial measures. The importance of using the facilities of this bureau can not be underestimated. The proper application of the vital statistics tabulations and the making of detailed analyses is difficult to perform with any degree of infallibility. Vital statistics constitute but an index toward actual conditions. California communities that make use of the facilities provided by the state may secure valuable information leading to greater efficiency in the administration of local health affairs.

MORBIDITY REGISTRATION.

During the past few years there has been a marked development in the reporting of cases of communicable diseases.

The provision of the franking privilege for mailing such reports has been of inestimable advantage in stimulating reporting. Furthermore, the Division of Epidemiology has developed a system of tabulation and distribution of statistical material that is of distinct advantage in providing definite information concerning the extent of the various communicable diseases within the state. The accumulation of ten years of reliable morbidity data has provided a reliable index to communicable disease conditions and as time goes on these data become of greater value in the development of regulations and standards for control.

SOCIAL HYGIENE.

Although an active organized bureau for carrying on social hygiene work is not functioning in the State Board of Health at the present time, a considerable amount of work relating to the control of the venereal diseases is carried on under a very small grant received from the federal government. This grant is a part of the residue appropriation from war days. A table outlining and summarizing the work of the venereal disease clinics operating in California is printed in another portion of this report. Reference to this table shows that nearly 22,000 cases of syphilis were reported to the State Board of Health during the past two years and almost 17,000 cases of gonorrhea; 244,000 treatments of arsephenamine were administered in the fourteen clinics reporting; 95,000 Wassermanns were performed in the cooperating clinics and in the State Hygienic Laboratory. A total of more than 70,000 pamphlets relating to venereal diseases were distributed by the State Board of Health during the past two years; practically all of these pamphlets were publications issued by the United States Public Health Service.

“The two chief contributions made by America to the cause of public health have been the Panama Canal and the public health nurse.”—Dr. W. H. Welch, Johns Hopkins University.

“The public health nurse saves many more dollars than she costs. Public health work today is not accomplishing results because of laws and ordinances. It is successful just in so far as people have correct information and individually and collectively act on that information. The public health nurse is an educator and an organizer. She teaches her people and induces them to put their knowledge into practice. She arouses their interest in the general well-being of the community and their sympathy and cooperation in the enforcing of laws and ordinances.”—Dr. C. H. Mayo.

New Sanitation Bulletins Issued.

Two new special bulletins, prepared by the Bureau of Sanitary Engineering, have been issued recently by the California State Board of Health. They are Special Bulletin No. 47—Sewage Disposal in the Country, and Special Bulletin No. 48—Information Concerning Water Contamination and Water Analyses. Copies of these publications may be obtained by making application to the Sacramento office of the State Board of Health.



Many New Health Officers Appointed.

Dr. J. W. Thayer, for many years city health officer of Gilroy, died recently. Dr. R. H. Prien has been appointed to take his place.

Dr. A. N. Crain, formerly connected with the Orange County Health Department, has been appointed health officer of Yolo County. The administration of public health has recently been organized into a full-time unit. Dr. Crain automatically succeeds Dr. H. D. Lawhead, who was county health officer, and Dr. Louise Newton, who was health officer of the city of Woodland.

Dr. K. D. Cook succeeds Dr. R. D. Mace as city health officer of Maricopa.

Dr. Frank M. Lawson has been appointed city health officer of Willows in place of Dr. J. L. Rawhauser.

Mr. George W. Myers is now city health officer of Montague, vice Mr. Henry Kniess.



Announce Extension Courses in Public Health.

The University of California Extension Division offers courses in health education under the direction of Dr. Richard A. Bolt and Miss Laura Cairns, in San Francisco, beginning in February; and in epidemiology under the direction of Dr. John A. Force, in Oakland, beginning in January. For information write or telephone the offices: 264 Pacific Building, 140 Kearny street, San Francisco; 1512 Franklin street, Oakland; 301 California Hall, Berkeley.



"The public health nurse is an invaluable aid to the health officer. People generally look on the health officer with suspicion, because in the past many health officers have arbitrarily enforced regulations without taking time to explain why. The public health nurse explains why and by teaching her people she wins their confidence and cooperation in carrying out laws."—Dr. D. C. Lohead.

LIST OF DISEASES REPORTABLE BY LAW.

ANTHRAX	MUMPS
BERI-BERI	OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM
BOTULISM	PARATYPHOID FEVER
CEREBROSPINAL MENINGITIS (Epidemic)	PELLAGRA
CHICKENPOX	PLAGUE
CHOLERA, ASIATIC	PNEUMONIA
DENGUE	POLIOMYELITIS
DIPHTHERIA	RABIES
DYSENTERY	ROCKY MOUNTAIN
ENCEPHALITIS (Epidemic)	SPOTTED (or Tick) FEVER
ERYSIPELAS	SCARLET FEVER
FLUKES	SMALLPOX
FOOD POISONING	SYPHILIS*
GERMAN MEASLES	TETANUS
GLANDERS	TRACHOMA
GONOCOCCUS INFECTION*	TUBERCULOSIS
HOOKWORM	TYPHOID FEVER
INFLUENZA	TYPHUS FEVER
JAUNDICE, INFECTIOUS	WHOOPING COUGH
LEPROSY	YELLOW FEVER
MALARIA	
MEASLES	

QUARANTINABLE DISEASES.

CEREBROSPINAL MENINGITIS (Epidemic)	POLIOMYELITIS
CHOLERA, ASIATIC	SCARLET FEVER
DIPHTHERIA	SMALLPOX
ENCEPHALITIS (Epidemic)	TYPHOID FEVER
LEPROSY	TYPHUS FEVER
PLAGUE	YELLOW FEVER

*Reported by office number. Name and address not required.



The heating or pasteurizing of milk reduces greatly the amount of bovine infection in a community. If butter is also pasteurized, bovine infection is practically eliminated.—Dr. Wm. H. Park.



MORBIDITY.*

Diphtheria.

154 cases of diphtheria have been reported, as follows: Alameda County 1, Alameda 2, Albany 1, Hayward 1, Oak'and 5, Pleasanton 2, San Leandro 4, Butte County 2, Chico 3, Fresno County 4, Kern County 1, Hanford 1, Los Angeles County 7, Alhambra 1, Beverly Hills 1, El Segundo 1, Long Beach 2, Los Angeles 56, Monrovia 1, Redondo 1, South Gate 2, Pacific Grove 1, Orange County 5, Anaheim 1, Santa Ana 2, Sacramento 2, San Bernardino County 1, Colton 1, San Bernardino 4, San Diego County 1, San Diego 7, San Francisco 14, Stockton 1, San Mateo County 3, Redwood City 1, San Mateo 3, Santa Clara County 2, Healdsburg 1, Modesto 1, Tulare County 2, Lindsay 1, Yolo County 1.

Scarlet Fever.

231 cases of scarlet fever have been reported, as follows: Alameda 2, Albany 2, Berkeley 4, Oakland 9, Piedmont 1, Butte County 3, Chico 1, El Cerrito 1, Richmond 5, Kern County 4, Los Angeles County 15, Alhambra 1, Arcadia 1, Azusa 1, Beverly Hills 3, Burbank 1, El Segundo 1, Glendale 4, Glendora 1, Huntington Park 1, Long Beach 16, Los Angeles 34, Pasadena 3, Pomona 1, Redondo 1, West Covina 1, South Gate 1, Maywood 1, Orange County 7, Anaheim 1, Fullerton 3, Huntington Beach 6, Santa Ana 6, Sacramento 2, Colton 2, Redlands 2, San Bernardino 5, San Diego 13, San Francisco 12, San Joaquin County 2, Stockton 4, San Luis Obispo County 2, Paso Robles 2, San Mateo County 2, Redwood City 1, Santa Barbara 1, Santa Clara County 14, Palo Alto 3, San Jose 11, Sunnyvale 1, Stanis-

*From reports received on December 13th and 14th for week ending December 11th.

laus County 4, Modesto 1, Tulare County 2, Visalia 2, Yolo County 1.

Measles.

999 cases of measles have been reported, as follows: Alameda County 4, Albany 3, Alameda 51, Berkeley 31, Livermore 13, Oakland 201, Piedmont 16, Pleasanton 1, Amador County 1, Butte County 10, Chico 18, Colusa 10, Concord 1, El Cerrito 1, Richmond 3, Fresno County 2, Kern County 1, Lake County 2, Los Angeles County 6, Compton 1, El Monte 4, Long Beach 20, Los Angeles 13, Montebello 6, Redondo 1, Whittier 3, Gustine 1, Los Banos 1, Monterey County 2, Monterey 1, Salinas 9, Grass Valley 1, Orange County 12, Huntington Beach 1, Seal Beach 2, Lincoln 1, Riverside County 1, Sacramento 30, San Bernardino County 3, Redlands 12, San Bernardino 35, San Diego 7, San Francisco 78, San Joaquin County 46, Lodi 31, Stockton 208, Tracy 7, San Luis Obispo County 2, San Mateo County 1, Burlingame 1, Santa Barbara 9, Santa Clara County 11, Gilroy 4, Mountain View 3, Palo Alto 6, San Jose 27, Santa Clara 1, Stanislaus County 3, Modesto 5, Sutter County 1, Corning 4, Red Bluff 1, Tulare 1, Yolo County 5, Davis 1, Woodland 2.

Smallpox.

12 cases of smallpox have been reported, as follows: Oakland 8, Los Angeles County 2, Los Angeles 1, Sacramento 1.

Typhoid Fever.

10 cases of typhoid fever have been reported,

as follows: Berkeley 1, Fresno County 1, Hermosa 1, Los Angeles 2, San Bernardino 2, San Francisco 1, San Joaquin County 1, Stanislaus County 1.

Meningitis (Epidemic).

One case of epidemic meningitis was reported, from Orange County.

Whooping Cough.

72 cases of whooping cough have been reported, as follows: Berkeley 4, Livermore 2, Oakland 9, Piedmont 4, Fresno County 3, Los Angeles County 9, Long Beach 6, Los Angeles 5, Pasadena 5, Monterey Park 1, Monterey County 3, San Bernardino 3, San Francisco County 11, Stockton 2, Santa Barbara 1, Santa Cruz 4.

Poliomyelitis.

Six cases of poliomyelitis have been reported, as follows: Amador County 1, Compton 1, Long Beach 1, Los Angeles 1, San Joaquin County 1, Stanislaus County 1.

Encephalitis (Epidemic).

One case of epidemic encephalitis was reported from San Francisco.

Jaundice (Epidemic).

Two cases of epidemic jaundice were reported, from San Diego County.

Leprosy.

One case of leprosy was reported, from Los Angeles.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REPORTS.

Disease	1926				1925			
	Week ending			Reports for week ending Dec. 11 received by Dec. 14	Week ending			Reports for week ending Dec. 12 received by Dec. 15
	Nov. 20	Nov. 27	Dec. 4		Nov. 21	Nov. 28	Dec. 5	
Anthrax.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Botulism.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chickenpox.....	318	302	408	469	246	217	279	338
Diphtheria.....	197	206	195	154	141	144	139	88
Dysentery (Bacillary).....	0	6	2	1	0	0	2	2
Encephalitis (Epidemic).....	0	2	4	1	0	4	1	2
Gonococcus Infection.....	115	69	99	107	239	118	99	71
Influenza.....	17	18	22	33	18	17	15	24
Jaundice (Epidemic).....	0	0	3	2	0	0	0	0
Leprosy.....	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0
Malaria.....	2	2	1	3	0	2	1	0
Measles.....	847	667	854	999	17	10	27	32
Meningitis (Epidemic).....	0	3	2	1	3	0	4	6
Mumps.....	210	189	181	224	179	212	282	249
Paratyphoid Fever.....	0	2	0	1	2	1	1	0
Pneumonia (Lobar).....	58	80	81	51	35	35	62	54
Poliomyelitis.....	6	5	5	6	13	10	3	4
Rabies (Animal).....	10	7	4	10	5	2	3	4
Rabies (Human).....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rocky Mt. Spotted Fever.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever.....	305	262	232	231	170	171	144	122
Smallpox.....	14	10	41	12	41	55	47	48
Syphilis.....	120	87	154	144	200	96	127	131
Tetanus.....	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0
Trachoma.....	15	4	194	8	17	2	3	2
Trichinosis.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Tuberculosis.....	173	196	202	139	198	125	129	231
Typhoid Fever.....	13	14	12	10	17	17	8	9
Typhus Fever.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Whooping Cough.....	103	59	70	72	30	55	51	72
Totals.....	2524	2191	2766	2679	1572	1294	1430	1489